

WESTCHESTER COUNTY HEALTH CARE CORPORATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 7, 2021

6:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Orlando Adamson, M.D., William Frishman, M.D., Renee Garrick, M.D., Herman Geist, Susan Gevertz – via Webex, John Heimerdinger, Mitchell Hochberg, Patrick McCoy, Tracey Mitchell, Alfredo Quintero, Zubeen Shroff, Mark Tulis, Richard Wishnie

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: John Flannery – via Webex, Michael Israel, Martin Rogowsky, Michael Rosenblut

STAFF PRESENT: Julie Switzer, EVP, General Counsel

**Gary Brudnicki, Senior Executive Vice President
Kara Bennorth, EVP, Chief Administrative Officer
Marc Chasin, M.D., CHIO
Don Chen, M.D., Director of Infection Control
Anthony Costello, SVP, Professional Support Services
Michael Doyle, M.D., Executive Director and CMO, HealthAlliance
Mark Fersko, EVP, Financial Planning
Paula Fessler, Chief Nursing Executive
Michael Gewitz, M.D., Executive Director, MFCH
Mary Leahy, M.D., CEO, Bon Secours Charity Health System
Jordy Rabinowitz, SVP, Human Resources
Josh Ratner, SVP, Strategic Planning
Daniel Zelazny, M.D., President of the Medical Executive Committee**

CALL TO ORDER

The April 7, 2021, meeting of the Westchester County Health Care Corporation (“WCHCC”) Board of Directors was called to order at 6:30 p.m., by Mr. Hochberg, Chair. A quorum was present.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Orlando Adamson, M.D.	Mitchell Hochberg
William Frishman, M.D.	Patrick McCoy
Renee Garrick, M.D.	Tracey Mitchell
Herman Geist	Alfredo Quintero
Susan Gevertz – Via Webex	Zubeen Shroff
John Heimerdinger	Mark Tulis
	Richard Wishnie

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

John Flannery – Via Webex
Michael Israel
Martin Rogowsky
Michael Rosenblut

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategic planning matters.

MR. HOCHBERG ASKED FOR A MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. MR. SHROFF MOTIONED, SECONDED BY MR. HEIMERDINGER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

MR. HOCHBERG ASKED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 2, 2021, MEETING OF THE BOARD. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. TULIS, SECONDED BY MR. MCCOY, TO APPROVE THE MARCH 2, 2021, WESTCHESTER COUNTY HEALTH CARE CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE MEDICAL STAFF

Dr. Zelazny provided the report of the President of the Medical Staff. He presented a credentialing packet (dated April 7, 2021, and attached to these minutes) containing information on Credentialing Appointments, Additional Privileges, and FPPEs.

Motion to Approve Recommendations for Appointments, Additional Privileges, and FPPEs

MR. HOCHBERG ASKED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS, ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES, AND FPPEs. MS. GEVERTZ MOTIONED, SECONDED BY MR. QUINTERO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Ms. Bennorth informed the Board that WMC's Health Equity Task Force has been very active in the community with over twenty-five virtual sessions with hundreds of participants throughout the region.

Ms. Bennorth advised the Board that WMCHHealth's COVID Communication micro-site has had over 290,000 visits to date, with the vaccination directory receiving approximately 120,000 hits.

Ms. Bennorth updated the Board on WMC's Regional Vaccination Volunteer Activation at the County Center. She stated that there are 3,079 volunteers registered, with approximately 1,400 serving as volunteers. Ms. Bennorth advised that as of January 9, 2021 to the present, 15,473 volunteer hours were provided.

Ms. Bennorth informed the Board that this year's Girls Night Out will be a virtual Network wide event held on May 6, 2021.

Ms. Bennorth informed the Board that DeCicco & Sons has begun a point of sale campaign called Help to Heal, benefiting the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital ("MFCH").

Ms. Bennorth advised the Board that the Maria Fareri Children's Healthcare Services at MHRH is running a Pay It Forward campaign.

Ms. Bennorth stated that the Children's Miracle Network has numerous current and upcoming campaigns.

Ms. Bennorth presented a video to the Board depicting a family's gratitude for the care they received at the MFCH.

Mr. Costello showed images of the lobby corridors and stated that the in-house construction crew is updating the corridors to match the Ambulatory Care Pavilion ("ACP") lobby.

Mr. Costello showed images of the 4th floor of the ACP, home to WMC's Neuro/Ortho Spine Center. He stated that the floor is now open and he is receiving positive feedback.

Mr. Costello showed construction images of the ground floor of Cedarwood Hall, where the clinics used to be located. He stated that the IT Department is the last remaining department in Elmwood Hall, and they will be relocating to Cedarwood Hall, once the construction is completed. Mr. Costello advised that Elmwood Hall is not worth repairing.

Mr. Costello showed images of recently renovated apartments at Beechwood Hall and Maplewood Hall. He stated that each year, eight apartments are renovated by the in-house construction crew.

Mr. Costello showed images of the Mary's Avenue construction project at HealthAlliance ("HA"). He stated that the project remains on time and on budget and is scheduled to be completed by the 2nd quarter of 2022.

Mr. Costello informed the Board of the following Clinical updates at MHRH:

- Pediatrics:
 - 10 bed Pediatric Unit Design completed – will be relocated to 3 Spellman;
 - Initiated inpatient bedside consults for pediatric subspecialties;
 - Discharges YTD = 78;
 - Atrium Suite 300 – APS Pediatric Specialists opening on April 23, 2021;

- Infrastructure upgrades:
- Radiology – new equipment installations;
 - Philips 256 slice CT (Q2 2021), Philips 1.5T and 3T (2022);
- Cath Lab Renovation
 - 1 of 2 room renovations completed;
 - VIR procedures to commenced March 2021;
 - Cath procedures to commence Q2 2021;
- Patient monitoring – installed telemetry on 6 Cooke (10 beds);
- Clinical Operations; and
- Patient Placement Centralized WMC Valhalla March 2021.

Mr. Costello advised the Board of the following physician recruitments at MHRH:

- APS Hospitalist recruitment continues;
- APS Nephrology – Ibrahim Pasha, M.D. (3/12 start date); and
- APS Anesthesia – Collrane Forestano, PA (3/15 start date).

Mr. Costello compared volume for 2020 YTD to 2021 YTD:

- Average daily census – 27% increase, 131 vs. 166; and
- OR volume – 11% increase, 648 vs. 939

Dr. Doyle, Executive Director of HealthAlliance, informed the Board of the following:

Clinical updates:

- Cath Lab approval;
- Cath Lab RN and Tech training at WMC and Charity continues, target go live is April 21st;
- Mountainside Residential Care Center remains COVID free, visitation in accordance with NYS guidelines;
- OR at pre-COVID levels;
- ED and inpatient at 75-80%;
- Staff additions:
 - Dr. Ashanda St. Jean, OB/GYN

Behavioral Health:

- 47% of Psychiatry treat and release. 88% of admissions at WMCHHealth Network; and
- 85% Substance Use treat and release. 88% of admissions at Broadway.

Kingston COVID-19 Testing Site:

- Daily tests average 40+; and
- Open 7 days per week, 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

COVID Vaccination POD:

- Set up former Foxhall Ambulatory Surgery Site;
- Scheduling priority groups in accordance with NY state guidelines; and
- Ulster County Fairground Mass Vaccination site.

Surveys and Certifications:

- Completed DNV Survey for HA and Margaretville Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Doyle informed the Board of the following community engagement activities:

- County Executive Patrick Ryan – monthly call;
- Benedictine Health Foundation;
- Live Well Kingston;
- Mana-a-Mano; and
- Bringing agencies together.

Dr. Leahy, CEO of Bon Secours Charity Health System, informed the Board that Good Samaritan Hospital (“GSH”) currently has 22 COVID-19 positive inpatients; there are six patients at St. Anthony’s Community Hospital (“SACH”), and eleven patients at Bon Secours Community Hospital (“BSCH”). She stated that the majority of the COVID patients are being treated on the med-surg unit, not in the ICU. Dr. Leahy advised that Charity has administered approximately 600 doses of Monoclonal antibody therapy treatments in its emergency departments, with less than 5% returning to the hospital requiring inpatient treatment within 90 days. She stated that Charity has used approximately 4,000 doses of Remdesivir to treat COVID inpatients. Dr. Leahy stated that Charity has had over 1,600 COVID discharges to date. She stated that Charity has administered over 2,500 doses of vaccines on each of its campuses, and administered over 87,000 COVID tests.

Dr. Leahy advised the Board that Charity has recruited a female urologist for its medical group, as well as a psychiatrist, and is actively recruiting for both GI and Urology physicians in Orange and Rockland counties. She stated that Charity has partnered with Crystal Run and Middletown Medical for OB and general surgery services, respectively.

Dr. Leahy informed the Board that Dr. Kristy Bauer, a critical care pulmonologist at GSH, was recently honored by Blue Cross Blue Shield and Crain’s as one of 50 New York Home Health Heroes.

Dr. Leahy informed the Board that Charity had 376 births in the month of February, with 333 at GSH and 43 at SACH.

Dr. Gewitz informed the Board that the MFCH is accredited by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers for 2021-2022 as a Level 4 Epilepsy Center. He stated the Level 4 epilepsy centers have the professional expertise and facilities to provide the highest-level medical and surgical evaluation and treatment for patients with complex epilepsy.

Dr. Gewitz advised the Board that the Westchester Clinical Research Center will be launching in the spring.

Dr. Gewitz informed the Board that the Maria Fareri Children’s Services at MHRH is growing. He stated that discharges exceeded the budget for the month of March.

Dr. Gewitz showed images, and discussed plans, for the MFCH Neighborhood expansion project at MHRH.

Dr. Gewitz informed the Board that March is Match month for training programs. He stated that WMC had very successful match results for almost 100 positions.

Dr. Garrick informed the Board that WMC is currently undergoing its accreditation DNV survey virtually.

Dr. Garrick informed the Board that WMC underwent its Stroke survey for re-accreditation.

Dr. Garrick updated the Board on the Medical Staff Credentialing Network initiatives.

Dr. Garrick updated the Board on myCare quality operations.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

COMBINED AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Heimerdinger, Chair, Audit and Corporate Compliance Committee, stated that the combined Audit and Finance Committee met this afternoon, prior to the Board meeting.

Mr. Heimerdinger advised the Board that Grant Thornton presented the 2020 Financial Statement Audit Results. He stated that their report summarized the Audit, the scope of the engagement, the reports to be issued, any matters that came to their attention during the Audit, communications required by Professional Standards and current accounting issues that could or will impact the organization. Mr. Heimerdinger advised that the Committee accepted the 2020 Audit results.

Mr. Heimerdinger informed the Board that Ms. Ariel discussed the status of compliance audits in progress and completed. He stated that the audits in progress included: HIPAA Privacy Audit at Valhalla and MHRH; Coding Assessment of Outpatient Lab Services at Valhalla; Coding Review for DRG – 177 Respiratory Infections and Inflammations; COVID-19 Telehealth Services; and 4 High Volume Provider Documentation and Coding Reviews for Westchester Medical Center Advanced Physician Services.

Mr. Heimerdinger advised that Ms. Ariel discussed the following completed audits: DRG Coding Review Medical Back at Valhalla; Outpatient Substance Abuse at MHRH; Inpatient Rehab Facility at MHRH, and a High Volume Provider Documentation and Coding Review CPT–4 Codes, Gastrointestinal Procedures.

Mr. Heimerdinger informed the Board that Mr. Palovick then discussed the status of Internal Audits in progress and completed. He stated that the audits in progress included: The Blood Bank at Valhalla; the Gift Shops at Valhalla and MHRH; and the Waste Management Contract Administration at Valhalla. In addition, Internal Audit also completed the annual support work on behalf of Grant Thornton for the 2020 Financial Statement Audit.

Mr. Tulis informed the Board that the Finance Committee approved the meeting minutes of March 3, 2021, and the Committee then moved into executive session.

QUALITY COMMITTEE

Ms. Gevertz, Chair, Quality Committee, stated that the Committee met on March 5, 2021.

Ms. Gevertz advised the Board that Dr. Garrick reviewed the report of the Quality and Safety Committee meeting of January 14, 2021. She highlighted the reports from Anesthesia and Rehab Medicine. Dr. Garrick also reviewed the QA/PI reports submitted by Critical Care; the Glycemic Council; the HIV Clinic; and Nursing.

Ms. Gevertz advised the Board that the Committee received a presentation on the Environment of Care Quality Council by Mr. Doering. She stated that he reviewed the 2020 Management Plan Evaluations and the 2021 Management Plans. Ms. Gevertz advised the Board that the Committee voted to recommend the adoption of the 2020 Management Plan Evaluations and the 2021 Management plans to the Board.

MR. HOCHBERG ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2020 MANAGEMENT PLAN EVALUATIONS AS WELL AS THE 2021 MANAGEMENT PLANS. MS. GEVERTZ MOTIONED, SECONDED BY MS. MITCHELL. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Gevertz stated that Mr. Doering then gave a regulatory update; discussed Corrective Action Plans; and the Westchester County Center Vaccination Site.

Ms. Gevertz advised the Board that Ms. Cuddy discussed the details of the 2020 annual summary including:

- The Table of Organization;
- The Impact of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency on reporting and data submissions;
- The 2020 Quality Department activities;
- Organizational Priorities and Outcomes;
- Clinical Optimization and Efficiency activities; and
- National Hospital Quality Measures.

Ms. Gevertz stated that Dr. Garrick then presented the following 2020 Star Rating Data:

- National Hospital Quality Measures;
- Patient Safety Indicators;
- The adoption of Eastern Quality Improvement Collaborative (EQIC);
- COVID-19 data;
- COVID-19 Service Excellence activity;
- Rapid Health Response to the COVID-19 surge and maintenance of best practices; and
- Clinical Documentation Improvement data.

Ms. Gevertz advised that Ms. McFarlane then discussed the 2020 Regulatory activities and highlighted the following:

- There were 97 surveyor days;
- 100% accreditation and certification was achieved;
- Corrective Action Plans were implemented and achieved where findings were made;
- Comprehensive Stroke Certification was added;
- NYPORTS;
- Internal Survey Program and related DNV findings; and
- Contracted Services.

Ms. Gevertz informed the Board that Ms. Cuddy presented the 2021 Performance Improvement and Patient Safety Plan and Reporting Calendar, highlighting the following:

- 2021 Performance Improvement and Patient Safety Plan – revisions to the plan were discussed;
- 2021 Organization Priorities – Goals include participation in the EQIC metrics, focusing on service excellence, optimization of Cerner reporting for quality specific programing, Gemba walks, and enhanced clinical optimization ; and
- 2021 Reporting Calendar – similar to 2020 and aligned Network wide.

Ms. Gevertz informed the Board that the Committee recommended adoption of the 2021 Performance Improvement and Patient Safety Plan, the 2021 Organizational Priorities, and the 2021 Reporting Calendar to the Board.

MR. HOCHBERG ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2021 PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AND PATIENT SAFETY PLAN, THE 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES, AND THE 2021 REPORTING CALENDAR. MS. GEVERTZ MOTIONED, SECONDED BY DR. ADAMSON. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Gevertz stated that Ms. McFarlane provided the regulatory report for the Committee.

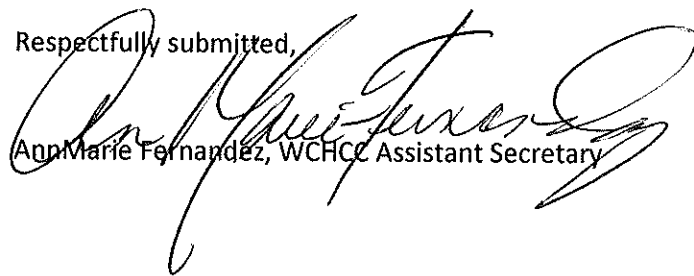
NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

MR. HOCHBERG ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 7, 2021, MEETING OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY HEALTH CARE CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS. MR. QUINTERO MOTIONED, SECONDED BY DR. FRISHMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Marie Fernandez, WCHCC Assistant Secretary